

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 125

PRINTER NO. 971

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 14, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Dush

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 125 amends Title 25 (Elections) adding a section providing for interstate voter registration cross-check.

This legislation adds language for the purpose of maintaining a statewide voter registration list and preventing duplications of registration in more than one state or jurisdiction. The Department of State shall cooperate with other states and jurisdictions to develop systems comparing registered electors, voter history and registration records to identify registered electors that have changed addresses, been convicted of a felony or who are registered to vote in more than one state.

The Department of State may identify and contract with the provider of a private sector data system as defined in the bill to identify registered electors that have changed addresses, who are registered to vote in more than one state, who are deceased or who are not otherwise eligible to vote including a felony conviction.

The private sector data system must demonstrate an ability to work with registered voter identification and matching systems. A contract with the private sector data system shall not require the Department of State to complete any actions that are not necessary to identify registered electors.

Any information that is not contained in a district register and necessary to identify registered electors shall not be provided to the private sector data system. The private sector data system shall not provide, release or exchange data received from the state to any party other than a state or territory of the United States that also contracts with the private sector data system.

The Department of State shall, immediately upon identifying an individual reported ineligible under this bill, send the name and address of residence of the individual to the appropriate registration commission in a manner and on a prescribed form. Upon receipt of notification, the commission shall immediately initiate its process for the removal of such electors from the commission's registration records in accordance with the law.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 125 requires initial membership costs of a contract with a private sector data system to not exceed \$100,000. Costs associated with continuing operations with the private sector data system shall not exceed \$1 for each registered elector as identified in the legislation.

Currently, the Department of State contracts with a third-party organization that provides voter registration cross-check services. According to the Department of State, those costs are as follows:

FISCAL YEAR	Dues
Initial Membership for DOS Secretary and Designee (2016)	\$25,000
January 2016 – June 2016 (6 months)	\$39,805
July 2016 – June 2017	\$64,810
July 2017 – June 2018	\$60,985
July 2018 – June 2019	\$55,378
July 2019 – June 2020	\$53,716
July 2020 – June 2021	\$52,105
July 2021 – June 2022	\$52,105
July 2022 – June 2023	\$71,962
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$475,866

There will be no new administrative costs as a result of this legislation. The Department of State has indicated that the cost parameters contained in the bill may limit their ability to work with third-party contractors as outlined.